

# INSTRUCTIONS AND EXPLANATION

## COLLECTING THE SAMPLE

1. Select a clean faucet. Avoid collecting from a swivel or hinged faucet as bacteria regrowth may occur in the cracks.
2. Remove all screens or strainers before taking the sample.
3. Allow water to run 3-5 minutes before taking the sample.
4. Do **NOT REMOVE the cap from the bottle until just before taking the sample**. While you are filling the bottle, hold onto the cap so that neither the lip of the bottle or the inside surface of the cap touch anything, especially your fingers. **Fill the bottle leaving 1" inch head space** to allow for mixing of the sample. If you are using the smaller disposable bottle fill to the 120 ml. volume mark which is the top marking and closest to the lid. This leaves a 1" inch space between the lid and the sample.
5. Coliform samples must reach the laboratory within 30 hours.
6. Keep the sample cold but do not freeze.
7. Fill out label on bottle.